



School Business Alert

March 2017

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- ❖ [Special Education Excess Positive Balance Deduction from state Payment to School Districts](#)
- ❖ [Transportation](#)
- ❖ [New/Updated Data Summaries and Reports](#)
- ❖ [Iowa School Business Management Academy](#)

FINANCIAL

Special Education Excess Positive Balance Deduction from State Payment to School Districts

If you had a 2015-2016 special education excess positive balance, this amount is being deducted beginning with the March 2017 state foundation aid payment. These deductions will continue through the end of the fiscal year. Districts without an excess positive balance may also see a small change in their state aid payment (one-dollar increase or decrease) due to the March recalculation. Payment summaries can be found in the [State Payment Information FY17](#).

Questions regarding this deduction can be directed to: [John Parker](#), 515-281-8485.

Transportation

From now until April 14, the state of Iowa is asking for public input on how to spend approximately \$21 million obtained from the recently announced Volkswagen (VW) Settlement. Replacement of older diesel-powered school buses would be an eligible project. Iowa has developed a new website [VW Settlement](#) to provide information about the settlement and to collect input on how the state should plan for using the funds.

Governor Branstad says, "The settlement provides for an array of eligible projects that could benefit Iowa. We are asking Iowans for their input on the types of projects they believe will achieve the greatest long-term impact."

The VW Settlement resolves allegations that Volkswagen violated the Clean Air Act by selling approximately 590,000 model year 2009 to 2016 diesel motor vehicles equipped with "defeat devices" in the United States. These devices, in the form of computer software, were designed to cheat on federal emissions tests. As a result, the state of Iowa is expected to receive approximately \$21 million in environmental mitigation trust funds over the next ten years set aside specifically for projects that reduce emission of nitrogen oxides (NOx).

The public comment period will be open until April 14. Once all public comments have been collected, a working group comprised of officials from several state agencies and coordinated by the Iowa Department of Transportation will develop a mitigation plan that will be submitted to the VW settlement trustee. Again, replacement of older diesel-powered school buses would be an eligible project.

The Iowa website also provides a [subscription service](#) for those who would like to receive updates on the progress of the mitigation plan and the overall settlement.

For more information, contact [Max Christensen](#), 515-281-4749.

GENERAL INFORMATION

New/Updated Data Summaries and Reports

Several new or updated data summaries and reports have been posted to the Department's website:

[Reorganization and Dissolution History \(updated to reflect changes effective 7/1/17\)](#)

[FY16 SAVE-SILO Legislative Report](#)

[FY16 School Association Legislative Report](#)

[2016-2017 IDEA Part B LEA Awards](#)

[2016-2017 State Allocation and Selected Federal Allocations](#)

[2016-2017 District AEA Flowthrough Amounts](#)

[2016-2017 Sources for Local Projects](#)

[2015-2016 Voter Approved PPEL Elections Results](#)

[2015-2016 School Bond Election Results](#)

[Bus Inspection Results](#)

Iowa School Business Management Academy, May 10-12

Online registration for the [Iowa School Business Management Academy](#) opens on Friday, March 24. Click on "Spring Academies", then "View Academy Brochure," for more details. Be sure to register by April 17 to **SAVE!**

UPCOMING DEADLINES

Due Date	What's Due
March 31	Last date to submit LEA and AEA electronic annual audit of prior year to the Department and Auditor of State's Office
April 15	Board resolutions for the budget guarantee due to the Department of Management (DOM)
April 15	Copy of ballot question or resolution for new VPPEL (that is not 100 percent property tax) or ISL to DOM
April 17	Electronic budget certification date (Iowa Code section 24.17)
April 17	Budget filed with control county auditor

[Click](#) to access current and past issues of the School Leader Update.

[Click](#) to access current and past issues of the School Business Alert.

If you have suggestions for future SBA articles,

please submit to [Marcia Krieger](#).

IOWA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

www.educateiowa.gov

Grimes State Office Building
400 E. 14th St
Des Moines, IA 50319-0146
FAX: 515-242-5988

Division of School Finance and Support Services

Matthew Coulter	Division Administrator	matthew.coulter@iowa.gov	515-281-3968
Tom Cooley	Chief	tom.cooley@iowa.gov	515-725-1120
Su McCurdy	Administrative Consultant	su.mccurdy@iowa.gov	515-281-4738
Jim Donoghue	Consultant	jim.donoghue@iowa.gov	515-281-8505
Janice Evans	Consultant	janice.evans@iowa.gov	515-281-4740
Denise Ragias	Consultant	denise.ragias@iowa.gov	515-281-4741
Bill Roederer	Consultant	bill.roederer@iowa.gov	515-281-7972
Carla Schimelfenig	Consultant	carla.schimelfenig@iowa.gov	515-242-5612
Gary Schwartz	Consultant	gary.schwartz@iowa.gov	515-281-4743
Max Christensen	Executive Officer 1 (Transportation)	max.christensen@iowa.gov	515-281-4749
Mary Jo Clark	Clerk	maryjo.clark@iowa.gov	515-281-5812
Joseph Funk	Bus Inspector	joseph.funk@iowa.gov	515-669-4987
Tom Simpson	Bus Inspector	tom.simpson@iowa.gov	515-326-1022
Verlan Vos	Bus Inspector	verlan.vos@iowa.gov	515-669-4994

It is the policy of the Iowa Department of Education not to discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, sex, disability, religion, age, political party affiliation, or actual or potential parental, family or marital status in its programs, activities, or employment practices as required by the Iowa Code sections 216.9 and 256.10(2), Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. § 2000d and 2000e), the Equal Pay Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. § 206, et seq.), Title IX (Educational Amendments, 20 U.S.C. §§ 1681 – 1688), Section 504 (Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 U.S.C. § 794), and the Americans with Disabilities Act (42 U.S.C. § 12101, et seq.). If you have questions or complaints related to compliance with this policy by the Iowa Department of Education, please contact the legal counsel for the Iowa Department of Education, Grimes State Office Building, 400 E. 14th Street, Des Moines, IA 50319-0146, telephone number: 515-281-5295, or the Director of the Office for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education, Citigroup Center, 500 W. Madison Street, Suite 1475, Chicago, IL 60661-4544, telephone number: 312-730-1560, FAX number: 312-730-1576, TDD number: 877-521-2172, email: OCR.Chicago@ed.gov.